AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraphs as follows:

[0008] The present invention provides an improved system and method for securing a component to an instrument body. The system comprises a component having a long, narrow base piece with a vertical stud aperture at each end of the base piece formed from a top surface through a bottom surface of the component. The system further comprises a mounting apparatus having an insert stud body or locking stud body, which is removably mounted into the instrument body. The components may further comprise an adjustment screw hole extending from one side of the component to each stud aperture. Adjustment screws may then be provided for insertion into the adjustment screw holes. The adjustment screws are fastened through the adjustment screw holes and into contact with the ~~insert~~ locking stud body to position the component laterally with respect to the ~~insert~~ locking stud body.

[0009] The mounting apparatus, in one embodiment, comprises a mounting stud, which secures the component to the instrument body. The mounting stud comprises a top portion and a threaded lower portion. The component is positioned such that the component is supported on a plate of the ~~insert~~ locking stud body. The mounting stud is fastened into an aperture portion of the ~~insert~~ locking stud body such that the top portion of the mounting stud clamps down on the component and securely holds the component in place.

[0014] FIG 3A is a side view of a mounting apparatus including a mounting stud and insert stud body, according to the present invention;

[0015] FIG. 3B is a side view of the exemplary mounting apparatus of FIG. 3A with the mounting stud fastened to the insert stud body;

[0024] FIG. 3A depicts an exemplary mounting apparatus 300 according to one embodiment of the present invention. In one embodiment, the mounting apparatus 300 comprising a mounting stud 302 and an insert stud body or locking stud body 304. The ~~insert~~ locking stud body 304 further comprises a threaded bottom potion 306, an aperture portion 308, and a plate 310 located between the threaded bottom portion 306 and the aperture portion 308. The plate 310 is, in exemplary embodiments, squared off to accept a wrench. The ~~insert~~ locking stud body 304 is removably mounted into the instrument body by fastening the threaded bottom portion 306 into a threaded ~~hole or~~ grommet or insert 312. Thus, the height of the mounting apparatus 300 and, subsequently, the component 200 (FIG. 2) may be adjusted simply by rotating the ~~insert~~ locking stud body 304 up or down via the plate 310 relative to the instrument body. In one embodiment, the ~~insert~~ locking stud body 304 is fastened into the threaded ~~hole and~~ grommet or insert 312 which may be permanently mounted into the instrument body.

[0025] The mounting stud 302 further comprises a top portion 314 and a threaded lower portion 316. In one embodiment of the present invention, the top portion 312 is slotted so that a flat-head screwdriver may be utilized for adjusting the height of the mounting stud 302 relative to the ~~insert~~ locking stud body 304. Alternatively, other fastening systems may be utilized, for example, such as a square bit or a hex head.

[0026] Referring now to FIG. 3B, the mounting stud 302 is removably coupled to the insert stud body or locking stud body 304. Specifically, the threaded lower portion 316 of the mounting stud 302 is positioned into the aperture portion 308 of the ~~insert~~ locking stud body 304. To assist in the fastening process, a wrench may be used to hold the ~~insert~~

locking stud body 304 stationary via the plate 310 while the mounting stud 302 is rotated into or out of the aperture portion 308.

[0028] FIG. 5 illustrates a side view of the embodiment of FIG. 4 mounted on an instrument body 500. The mounting apparatus will be described using the embodiment of FIG. 3A. Because the slots of the stud apertures 204 and 206 are generally smaller than the diameter of the plate 310, the component 200 will rest on top of the plate 310. Consequently, the fastening of the mounting stud 302 into the aperture portion 308 will fixedly clamp the component 200 in position between the plate 310 and a bottom surface of the top portion 312 of the mounting stud 302. If the height of the component 200 needs to be adjusted, the mounting apparatus 300 may be raised or lowered by rotating the threaded bottom portion 306 of the insert stud body or locking stud body 304 further into or out of the instrument body 500.

[0029] Also shown in FIG. 5 is the adjustment screw 220. As previously described, the adjustment screw 220 provides for lateral positioning of the component 200 relative to the insert stud body or locking stud body 304. Thus, rotating the adjustment screw 220 outwardly will position the ~~insert~~ locking stud body 304, and thus the mounting stud 302, further within the slot of the stud aperture 206 (FIG. 2). Alternatively, advancing the adjustment screw 220 into the adjustment screw hole 214 will position the ~~insert~~ locking stud body 304 further towards a mouth of the slot of the stud aperture 206. It should be noted that the adjustment screw 220 is not necessary for positioning the ~~insert~~ locking stud body 304 and the mounting stud 302 relative to the component 200, but may help facilitate the process.

[0030] FIG. 6A and FIG. 6B illustrate an alternative instrument component system. In the present embodiment, a tailpiece component 600 is separate from a bridge component

602. However, the mounting system works in a similar fashion as previously described in connection with FIG. 2-5. An insert stud body or locking stud body 604 is removably mounted in a ~~hole or~~ grommet or insert 606 of an instrument body 608. The tailpiece component 600 is then positioned such that the tailpiece component 600 rests over a plate 610 of the ~~insert~~ locking stud body 604. A mounting stud 612 is then fastened into a threaded aperture portion 614 of the ~~insert~~ locking stud body 604 until a top portion 616 of the mounting stud 612 exerts pressure onto the tailpiece component 600, thus clamping the tailpiece 600 between the top portion 616 and the plate 610. In this embodiment, adjustment screws are not utilized to position the tailpiece component 600 relative to the ~~insert~~ locking stud body 604 and the mounting stud 612. However, if so desired, adjustment screw holes may be provided in the tailpiece component 600 for this purpose, and adjustment screws utilized for lateral positioning of the tailpiece component 600.